

CLASSIFICATION CONFIDENTIALCOUNTRY Poland REPORTTOPIC Military Information from Ratibor (Racibors)

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EVALUATION                      PLACE OBTAINED                     DATE OF CONTENT                     

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DATE OBTAINED                      DATE PREPARED 3 September 1954REFERENCES                     

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PAGES 1 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)                     REMARKS This is UNEVALUATED Information

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1. Prior to 25 January 1954, only the barracks installation on the southern side of ul. Stalmacha (Kasernen Strasse) in the northwest sector of Ratibor (P 51/Y 05) was occupied by a Polish border guard (WOP) battalion. No other troops were stationed at Ratibor. The WOP battalion was subordinate to a WOP office at Gleiwitz (Q 51/Y 37). Illegal border crossings were handed over to this office. The WOP battalion included a dog-handler platoon which was observed training near the municipal water works, in an area southwest of the town and east of Oderberg Strasse. The WOP soldiers wore green service color. A few soldiers wearing red service color were also seen. Following the discharges in February 1953, groups of 20 to 40 soldiers with full field pack and wearing red-service color arrived at Ratibor. The soldiers probably were trained army personnel who received special border guard training at Ratibor and were detached to individual border guard details afterwards. Most of the training was conducted within the barracks installation. Little combat training and field training were observed. Most of the soldiers were armed with rifles. Only a few motor vehicles were seen. A captain was the ranking officer.

2. Prior to late January 1954, no recruiting district headquarters (WKR - Wojakowa Komenda Rejonowa) was stationed at Ratibor. Only a municipal Wojakowa office with the magistrate, and a similar office for country citizens with the district office were available at Ratibor (sic). The two offices were subordinate to the recruiting district headquarters at Cosel (P 51/X 98)

Comment. The 43d WOP Bn of the 4th WOP Brig Gleiwitz which is located at Ratibor was probably seen.

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